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this was discontinued, and the astronomical researches of the Observatory appeared in the *Memorie della Società degli Spettroscopisti*, then published by M. Tacchini at Palermo.

In 1879 Cacciatore obtained from the Government a more complete reorganisation of the Observatory into the three sections of Astrophysics, Meridian Astronomy, and Meteorology; each section having a staff of two assistants and a servant.

In 1880 he founded the Meteorological Observatory, which was established in an excellent position in the district of Valverde, about 1½ kilometre west of the Observatory, and supplied with the necessary instruments.

In 1882 he undertook another series of publications—viz., the *Publicazioni* of the Palermo Observatory, which contains the more important researches of the three sections referred to above. He published three volumes and began the fourth, which his death unfortunately prevented his completing. This has since been published by Signor Ricco, the present Provisional Director of the Observatory.

Professor Cacciatore was vice-president of the Italian commission for the observation of the solar eclipse of 1870, and was instrumental in organising the observing stations and publishing the results in a volume which appeared in 1872 under the title *Eclisse Totale di Sole del* 1870. He was President of the Faculty of Mathematical, Physical, and Natural Sciences for nine years, and for many years he was Director of the Engineering School at Palermo. He also held an important position in the municipality and the province of Palermo. Among other distinctions, Professor Cacciatore was a Commander of the Order of the Crown of Italy and an officer of the Order of St. Maurice. He was a member of the Italian Spectroscopic Society and of the Royal Academy of Palermo.

He died on June 16, 1889, to the great regret of his colleagues and friends, who loved him much for his rare goodness of heart and his exquisite courtesy of manner.

He was elected a Foreign Associate of this Society December 13, 1844.

LORENZO RESPIGHI was born at Cortemaggiore, Piacenza, on October 7, 1824, and was the son of Luigi Respighi and Giuseppina Rossetti. He studied at Parma and at the University of Bologna, where, in 1847, he took his degree in philosophy and mathematics. In 1849 he was appointed Professor of Mechanics and Hydraulics at the University of Bologna. Two years afterwards he became Professor of Astronomy, and in 1855 was appointed Director of the Observatory at Bologna.

Most of Professor Respighi's voluminous scientific work is published in the transactions of the Istituto di Bologna, the Accademia dei Nuovi Lincei, and the Accademia dei Lincei. His earliest publications were mainly meteorological.

In 1862 and 1863 he discovered three comets, the observa-

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tions of which were published in 1865, in which year he was appointed Professor of Astronomy at Rome and Director of the Observatory of Campidoglio.

Among the astronomers who have devoted themselves to the spectroscopic study of the solar prominences, Professor Respighi stands in the foremost rank. In 1869 he commenced the series of observations which has made his name celebrated in this branch of research. Pursuing his observations with extraordinary assiduity, he in less than three years sketched and mapped more than 8,000 prominences. He systematically and assiduously continued these researches for more than fifteen years, and he thus accumulated a mass of observations which are of high importance to the advancement of our knowledge of solar physics. His results are contained in some nine or ten papers published in the transactions of the academies mentioned above.

From 1874 to 1882 he made a very extensive series of observations of the Sun's diameter, and published two papers on the alleged variation in that diameter.

To meridian astronomy Professor Respighi has contributed three catalogues of the mean declinations of stars of the first to the sixth magnitudes, made with the Ertel Meridian Circle which was given to the observatory by Pope Pius IX. The first, in 1877, is a catalogue for the epoch 1875·0 of 285 stars within the parallels +20° and +64°. The second, published in 1880, supersedes the first, and contains 1463 stars within the same parallels and for the same epoch. This paper contains an exhaustive determination of the latitude of the observatory and a comparison of the catalogue with Auwers' Fundamental and the Greenwich Nine-year Catalogues. The result is to show that Respighi's declinations are of a high value. In 1884 he published his third catalogue of mean declinations, for the epoch 1880·0, of 1004 stars comprised within the parallels +0° to +20° and +64° to the pole.

Numerous other contributions to astronomy by Professor Respighi are to be found in the publications of several of the Italian academies which we cannot more particularly refer to here.

He died at Rome on December 10 of the past year. He was elected a Foreign Associate of this Society November 8, 1872.

Ernst Wilhelm Leberecht Tempel was born on December 4, 1821, at Nieder-Kunersdorf, near Löbau, in the kingdom of Saxony. His parents were people in poor circumstances, and so he received but a scanty education, which in after years he lost no opportunity of improving. When about twenty years of age he went to Copenhagen, where he worked for about three years as a lithographer, and where his lively manners and his taste for music and art acquired for him many friends, some of whom he never lost sight of. After leaving Copenhagen he went for some time to Christiania, and his roving spirit then brought him to

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